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| ATTENDING VETERINARIAN | A research facility must have an attending veterinarian to provide adequate veterinary care to its animals. [2.33, 3.110, Policy #3] |
| Criteria | <p>A research facility must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employ an attending veterinarian under formal arrangements [2.33 (a)(1)] • assure the attending veterinarian has the appropriate authority to: [2.33(a)(2)] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ ensure adequate veterinary care ▸ oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal husbandry • communicate to the attending veterinarian timely and accurate information on the animal's health, well-being and behavior [2.33(b)(3)] <p>The attending veterinarian must be a voting member of the IACUC.</p> <p>A research facility with more than one veterinarian may appoint to the IACUC another veterinarian with delegated program responsibility involving animals.</p> |
| Responsibilities | <p>The research facility must consult with the attending veterinarian to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine the program of veterinary care • develop a schedule of regular visits to the premises, if a part-time or consultant attending veterinarian • develop guidelines for principal investigators and other personnel on all animal-related activities • determine the method(s) of euthanasia for the animals which must be consistent with the current <i>Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia</i> <p>NOTE: Gunshot is not considered an acceptable method of <i>routine</i> euthanasia but may be used in</p> |

emergency or field situations where other more acceptable methods of euthanasia are not feasible.

The research facility **should** consult with the attending veterinarian to:

- determine adequacy of routine animal husbandry practices, such as:
 - ▶ hoof/foot care
 - ▶ grooming
 - ▶ cleaning and sanitation
 - ▶ dental care
- design the facility's surgical facilities
- determine the facility's procedure for surgeries on regulated animals which must require that:
 - ▶ survival surgeries be performed using aseptic technique. NOTE: A surgery is a survival surgery if the animal regains consciousness during or after the procedure.
 - ▶ major operative procedures for non-rodents be performed only in dedicated surgical facilities using aseptic technique
 - ▶ non-major operative procedures must be performed using aseptic technique
 - ▶ surgery on regulated rodents must be performed using aseptic technique
 - ▶ operative procedures conducted at field sites must be performed using aseptic technique
 - ▶ no eating, drinking or smoking be allowed in the surgery areas
 - ▶ food handling areas not be used for surgeries
- determine the research facility's policy on necropsies
- determine the facility's use of drugs, fluids and other medical supplies or equipment

- determine the facility's policy on the use of expired drugs, fluids and other medical material which must include **either**
 1. disposing of outdated drugs, fluids, and medical supplies **or**
 2. separating and appropriately labeling outdated drugs, fluids and medical supplies from non-expired medical materials to be used in the following situations:
 - ▶ for non-regulated animals
 - ▶ for non-regulated activities
 - ▶ for acute terminal procedures on regulated animals with the **exception** of drugs to relieve pain or distress and emergency drugs

The **attending veterinarian's** approval and signature is required on the research facility's:

- program of veterinary care
- exercise plan for dogs
- environmental enhancement plan for nonhuman primates
- statements of exemptions from participation in the environmental enhancement plan for individual nonhuman primates
- temperature acclimation statement for animals housed in sheltered or outdoor facilities
- statements of exemptions to marine mammal housing requirements
- noncommercial diets for large felids

A veterinarian's signature is required on:

- temperature acclimation certificates for transport
- health certificates
- necropsy reports

NOTE: A research facility may use more than one veterinarian,

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| | <p>if necessary, to provide adequate veterinary care for all the species housed at the facility.</p> <p>NOTE: If you, the inspector, have a concern with the instructions or guidance the research facility has received from the attending veterinarian, you should contact the Regional Office and discuss the concerns with a Supervisory Animal Care Specialist.</p> |
| Species Specific | <p>Dogs and Cats</p> <p>The research facility must have the attending veterinarian's approval for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the exercise plan for dogs• the outdoor housing for dogs/cats in temperatures below 50° F• the relative humidity level in the indoor housing facility <p>Nonhuman Primates</p> <p>The research facility must have the attending veterinarian's approval for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the acclimation status of nonhuman primates housed outdoors• environmental enhancement plan• exemptions from the environmental enhancement plan for individual nonhuman primates for medical reasons. Note: The IACUC may also exempt NHPs from the environmental enhancement plan for scientific reasons set forth in an approved research protocol.• temperature range for nonhuman primates' housing facility• the relative humidity level for nonhuman primates' housing facility• the sanitation schedule of enclosure surfaces for scent-marking species |

Marine Mammals

The research facility must have the attending veterinarian's approval for:

- the single housing of marine mammals
- the use of smaller than required enclosures for:
 - nonmedical training, breeding or holding
 - medical treatment and training
 - transfer purposes
- the provision of supplemental fresh water to a sick marine mammal
- a method of sanitizing enclosures with porous materials
- the application of insecticides and other similar chemical agents in the primary enclosure
- the food and feeding regimen for marine mammals in transit

Other Animals

The research facility must have the attending veterinarian's approval for the use of noncommercial diets for large felids.
